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April 28, 2003

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OFFICE OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Linda Mohny Rhodus
Administrative Counsel,
Michigan Supreme Court
P.O. Box 30052
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: Comments on proposed delay reduction court rule amendments
ADM File No. 2002-34

Dear Ms. Rhodus:

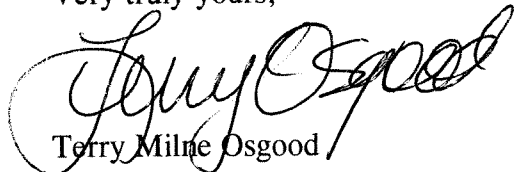
I write in support of the general principal of delay reductions in the Michigan Court of Appeals. However, I OPPOSE the proposed amendment that would eliminate stipulated extensions.

I handle virtually all of the state and federal appellate work, as well as the jury instructions and a significant amount of trial briefing for our six-person commercial litigation practice. In the small firm setting, the flexibility of being able to obtain an extension is essential.

Within the last year, I have handled four cases in the Michigan Court of Appeals that have each involved in excess of \$60,000,000. The complexity of the issues in these cases demanded more time than a typical appeal -- in three of these cases, I sought and obtained a stipulated extension and the briefs were of significantly greater quality as a result.

I firmly believe that counsel in both small and large firms can provide a higher quality of briefs if the current rule permitting stipulated extensions is maintained.

Very truly yours,


Terry Milne Osgood

TMO:lrw

cc: Rodger D. Young, Esq.